

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 /060 W

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P R 111249Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5674

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 2271

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, GR, US

SUBJ: TA NEA INTERVIEW WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR TASCA

REF: ATHENS 1279

1. ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN STORY REPORTED REFTEL APPEAR TO BE SAME AS THOSE MENTIONED IN PASSING IN SENSATIONALIST STORY ON CIA IN ITALY THAT APPEARED IN EPOCA FOR FEBRUARY 11, 1976. ALLEGATIONS RE TASCA IN EPOCA WERE NOT PICKED UP AND REPEATED IN ITALIAN PRESS.

2. AT TIME EPOCA STORY APPEARED, TASCA DENIED STORY TO EMBOFFS. HE TODAY DENIED TA NEA STORY TO POLITICAL COUNSELOR AND STATED THAT HE HAD, IN RESPONSE TO QUERY FROM COOLEY (CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR CORRESPONDENT IN ATHENS), ALSO DENIED STORY TO HIM. HE HOPES TAHT VIA COOLEY HIS DENIAL WILL BE REPORTED IN MONITOR.

3. THE EPOCA STORY, IN ADDITION TO ALLEGATIONS REPEATED IN TA NEA, ALSO INCLUDED STATEMENT THAT TASCA HAD MET IN ROME LAST
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MAY WITH WITH CORRESPONDENTS OF NY TIMES AND HAD PUT AT THEIR

DISPOSITION "SOME DOCUMENTS REGARDING THE UNSUCCESSFUL INVASION OF CYPRUS (SUMMER 1974), ORGANIZED BY THE CIA AND SUPPORTED BY KISSINGER." TASCA DENIED TO EMBOFFS THAT HE HAD MET WITH NY TIMES CORRESPONDENTS ON THIS OR ANY OTHER SUBJECT LAST MAY AND THAT HE HAD ANY SUCH DOCUMENTS. SINCE STORY DIED QUIETLY HERE, TASCA HAD DECIDED NOT TO ISSUE PUBLIC DENIAL BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF KEEPING STORY ALIVE.VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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